

JOURNAL

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[redacted] Dave McGiffert, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Legislative Matters, telephoned to ask if I knew of any specific arrangements resulting from the President's statements concerning Congressmen furnishing information on Cuba to the Executive Branch. His query was whether DOD or CIA was going to handle this. I stated I had no information on this at this time. I inquired about the questions on the Bay of Pigs affairs which were directed to General Taylor during his appearance before the Mahon Subcommittee. McGiffert advised that questions had been pressed but that General Taylor took the position that he would not discuss it since he was in effect a private citizen at the time and all members of the investigating group had been requested not to discuss their findings or information that had been received during the investigation.

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[redacted] At the Director's request, I talked with Senator Stennis indicating the Government's concern about the continued negotiations of James Donovan for the release of the 23 Americans in Cuba. I indicated the negotiations were delicate and we had become aware of a request of the Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee that Donovan meet to discuss Cuba. Stennis understood the concern immediately and said he would call off the request of the staff because the Subcommittee had nothing specific in mind and he felt clearly there was a greater national interest in connection with the negotiations themselves which he would not wish to disturb. I thanked Senator Stennis for his cooperation.

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[redacted] Talked with Boyd Crawford and advised that the Director would meet with the House Foreign Affairs Committee on 19 February at ten o'clock. I pointed out to Crawford that we would like to get more specific guidance on the topics for this briefing. Crawford indicated that certainly one area for exploration was the question of penetration of the rest of Latin America by Communism and Castroism. (In agreeing to appear before this Committee, the Director stated he wished to get a very precise statement from the Committee of what topics they wished to cover stating strongly that he did not wish to do a rambling world review.)

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